

AMENDMENTS

In the specification:

On page 1, paragraph 1, after the heading entitled "REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS," please replace the existing paragraph with the following rewritten paragraph:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/192,838, filed November 16, 1998, which claims the priority benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/065,774, filed November 17, 1997. Both applications are hereby incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned, "Version with Markings to show Changes Made".

Applicants note that this voluntary amendment has been made before examination on the merits, and is not in response to any objections and/or rejections made by the Office.

CONCLUSION

In the unlikely event that the fee transmittal is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 304142000501.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 20, 2001

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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

In the specification:

Please replace the paragraph 1 on p. 1, after the heading entitled "REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS," with the following rewritten paragraph:

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